

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Montgomery Hill Church, Baldwin Co., Ala.,

Commencing Sept. 23th, 1891.

OFFICERS-

B. J. SKINNER, Moderator.....Burnt Corn, Ala.

W. T. NETTLES, Clerk.....Kempville, “

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY,
1891.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Appoint committee to read letters.
2. Names of delegates enrolled.
3. Election of officers.
4. Appoint committee on preaching.
5. Recognize messengers from corresponding bodies.
6. Invitations to ministers not accredited to seats with us.
7. Appoint committees to report during the session.
8. Report committees appointed last session.
9. Appointment of committees to report next session.
10. Report of committees of the present session.
11. Motions and resolutions.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Appoint time and place of next meeting.
14. Treasurer's report.
15. Disbursement of funds on hand.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Ministerial Education—W. A. Locke, C. G. Hammond, J. T. Newberry.
 Missions—A. J. Lambert, T. P. Atkinson, B. F. Carter.
 Denominational Education—L. A. Hixon, J. S. Buford, W. K. Burt.
 Temperance—S. L. Lowery, B. Shirley, M. Stacey.
 Sabbath Schools—T. J. Emmons, N. A. McNeil, A. J. Thomas.
 Woman's Work—T. S. Wiggins, C. C. McWilliams, G. W. Thompson.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

S. L. Lowery.....	Brewton, Ala.
W. A. Locke.....	Perdue Hill, "
R. I. Draughon.....	" " "
A. J. Lambert.....	Mt. Pleasant, "
B. J. Skinner.....	Burnt Corn, "

MINUTES.

The seventieth annual session of the Bethlehem Baptist Association met with the Montgomery Hill church, Baldwin County, on the 25th day of September, 1891, at 11 o'clock. By request of B. J. Skinner, Dr. D. I. Purser preached the introductory sermon, text 1 John 2 14.

The Moderator being absent, the Association was called to order by the clerk. Bro. B. J. Skinner was temporarily called to act as Moderator.

A committee consisting of T. J. Emmons, T. P. Atkinson and L. A. Hixon were appointed to report on credentials. During the absence of the committee Bro. W. A. Whittle conducted religious services.

The committee on credentials reported as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bellville—W. K. Burke.
Bethany—B. J. Skinner, B. Shirley.
New Hopewell—C. G. Hammonds, W. Blair.
Philadelphia—W. T. Nettles, J. T. Newberry.
Pleasant Ridge—Thomas Lewis, J. S. Buford.
Enon—N. A. McNiel.
Ramah—Not represented.
Repton—Not represented.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Claiborne—B. F. Carter, J. L. Thames, L. J. Frye.
Perdue Hill—A. J. Thames.
Salem—G. W. Thompson, L. A. Hendrix.
Monroeville—T. J. Emmons, Jno. DeLoach, T. S. Wiggins, A. Dees.
Zion—C. C. McWilliams.
Hamilton Hill—L. A. Hixon, S. P. Hetherington.
Oak Grove—Not represented.
Mt. Pleasant—A. J. Lambert.
Montgomery Hill—T. P. Atkinson, T. H. Boyles.
Point Pleasant—S. L. Lowery.
Mar's Hill—Not represented.
Poplar Spring—J. Murphy.
Pleasant Hill—W. A. Locke, M. Stacey, R. T. Solomon.

B. J. Skinner was elected Moderator, W. T. Nettles re-elected Clerk, and T. J. Emmons was elected Treasurer.

A letter petitioning for admittance into the Association from the Judson church was presented by Bro. T. W. Fickling. The church was received into the fellowship of the Association.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Elim Association—Represented by Bro. W. C. Hall.
Howard College—By Dr. B. F. Riley and Dr. D. I. Purser.

Dr. D. I. Purser was recognized as Vice President of the Sunday School Board.

Alabama Baptist was represented by Bro. W. A. Whittle and Bro. C. W. Hare.

State Mission Board was represented by Bro. W. B. Crumpton.

Committee on Preaching—A. J. Lambert and Deacons of Montgomery Hill church.

Committee on Finance—L. A. Hixon, John DeLoach, W. K. Burt.

Committee on Temperance—W. A. Locke, Monroe Stacey, T. J. Emmons.

Queries and Requests—S. L. Lowery, A. J. Thames, S. P. Hetherington.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

The committee charged with the presentation of claims of education, beg leave to report:

The times in which we live are peculiar. Certain great and grave questions are pushing themselves to the front as never before. One of the foremost of these, as well as one of the most important, is that of education. The people of the South are moving as never before along the lines of the education of their sons and daughters. They recognize the fact that the world is calling more loudly than ever before for educated men and women. Education has also resolved into three distinct systems, viz: Private. State and Christian. The leading competitors are, however, the State and the church. Realizing that it cannot intrust to the State the creation of certain influences in the midst of which their children are to be reared, Christian denominations are founding and maintaining institutions of their own. These are manned by instructors of equal merit with those found in the schools of the State, while there is the additional consideration of moral influences for the formation of upright characters. Those with which we stand most vitally concerned are the Judson Institute at Marion, the Howard College at East Lake, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. Last session there were enrolled at the Judson nearly two hundred students, one hundred and thirty-seven of whom were boarders. In the Judson the Baptists own one of the finest pieces of property owned by Christian people North or South. It is worthy of our affections, prayers and patronage. The Howard is our most cherished institution, because here we must look for the supplies for our pupils. The future citizens of the State who are Baptists, largely take mold and shape of this institution. Its success at East Lake, to which point it was moved four years ago, has been phenomenal. Last year was the most prosperous in its history. Two hundred and six students were enrolled last session, the main building of the college completed, and two brick dormitories and within a month two additional brick buildings will have been completed. Of the students in attendance thirty-five were ministerial. Thus year by year, as older brethren are falling out of our ranks, the breaches are being filled with young men educated at the Howard College. This institution is most heartily commended to the members of this Association. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, at Louisville, is our school of the prophets. It is the largest Baptist seminary in the world. God has blessed it, and is still doing so. For the education of our daughters we earnestly commend the Judson, for our sons the Howard, and to our young ministers, the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. HODGEN, Chairman.

Adopted.

A forcible and eloquent speech in behalf of these institutions was made by Dr. D. I. Purser.

A collection in cash and pledges was taken up for the Howard buildings amounting to \$154.00.

Committee on preaching reported:

W. A. Whittle preach to-night; at 9 o'clock a m on Sunday, Sunday School mass-meeting; at 11 o'clock Dr. Riley to preach.

After prayer by W. B. Crumpton, the association adjourned until Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Bro. W. B. Crumpton addressed himself to the Sunday work in a forcible speech.

At 11 o'clock Dr. Riley delivered an exhaustive sermon on Christian Education.

At 3 o'clock p. m., the young men were addressed by Dr. B. F. Riley on the importance of education.

On Sunday night W. A. Whittle delivered a lecture on Jerusalem, which was earnestly listened to by a large congregation. At the close of the lecture a collection was taken for Missions.

MONDAY MORNING.

Association met according to adjournment. Religious services were conducted by W. L. Lowery.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, would beg leave to report that from our best information there are only ten Sunday Schools in this Association, and one or two of these are union. There are not quite half as many Sunday Schools as churches. In view of this fact we do not believe that we are making as earnest efforts as we should in this direction. Believing as we do that the Sunday School is the nursery of the church, and realizing the fact that our children should be reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, we would that your body would take some definite steps to increase the interest in this great work, which should lie near the heart of every Christian parent. We urge the use of Southern Series in Sunday School work.

B. F. CARTER, Ch'n.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We are gratified to report a marked improvement in the bounds of this association on this line. The church now, more than ever before, is asserting the God given right, to put this curse of the church and of the county out of her borders. There is a spirit of improvement which is gratifying and we give God the glory. The church is praying to the God of Heaven to remove this curse, and it is being answered; God can and will remove this bane of the church and society. If the church is faithful to herself, God will hear the prayers of his people in their crusade against this pernicious habit. And we are anxiously looking and praying for the day to dawn upon our beloved Alabama, when intemperance shall be a thing of the past. Let us hope to the end.

W. A. LOCKE, Ch'n.

Adopted. W. A. Locke, B. J. Skinner and W. A. Whittle spoke to this question.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee report that the churches composing this body of Christian workers have in the past few years manifested more interest in educating her ministers, and contributions for that purpose have been more liberal, than at any time in the long history, the seventy years' existence of this body. In 1889-90 this association was represented by five ministerial students. In 1890-91 by three in Howard College. We report furthermore, that the field in this association is white unto the harvest, but the laborers are few and the demand is for earnest prayer, liberal contributions and untiring effort, for laborers to fill this destitute field in God's vineyard. We furthermore report that such are the minds and feelings of the rising generation, surrounded by such vast educational advantages that we cannot afford to be in the background as to an educated ministry. We are sorry to say some of our churches are doing nothing in this work, and none of them too much. While then it is our duty to give of our means to educate our ministry, we should not give less but more to effect this noble purpose, and also to associate with these contributions our earnest prayers to God to give us a ministry backed by the Holy Ghost. It is the voice of the people everywhere, Give us educated preachers, the better our preachers are educated the more power they have over men. And, too, we see the probabilities of placing too much stress upon the letter, and not keeping it associated with the spirit. It was not the eloquence of Apollos, nor the educated Paul, but the ignorant and unlearned Peter, who was the instrument of the Holy Ghost in converting three thousand on the day of Pentecost.

A. J. LAMBERT, Ch'n.

Adopted. Discussed by A. J. Lambert and B. J. Skinner.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The call for Missionaries and Mission work is no less pressing and imperative now than it has been heretofore, and the fields no less inviting. Through the State Board much good work has been done in many parts of the State. Our Home and Foreign Boards too are accomplishing much and have opportunities presented and opening up for more effective and successful operations in the future. The success of many of our faithful Missionaries should encourage us, not only to continue our efforts, our interest, our sympathy and material aid, but to stimulate us to increased efforts. We will never do more than our duty in this department of Christian labor, and our duty is to do our best regardless of either success or failure, as may appear to us, leaving the results to God.

THOS. WIGGINS, Ch'n.

Adopted. Discussed by B. J. Skinner.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Your committee respectfully submit that it has been demonstrated within our own bounds during the past year that women of our churches in their organized efforts have been great alliances to the churches, and their work should be encouraged.

J. T. NEWBERRY, Ch'n.

Adopted.

QUERIES AND REQUESTS.

From a request of the Bethany Church your committee recommends the meeting of this body with that church at its next annual session.

S. L. LOWERY, Ch'n.

Resolved, That this body meet at its next annual session on Tuesday before the third Sabbath in August, 1892.

Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received of Finance Committee in cash, for Home Missions...	\$ 14 25
Foreign Missions.....	16 00
State Missions.....	34 40
Ministerial Education.....	49 10
Indigent Ministers.....	2 00
Minutes.....	26 10
Sabbath collection.....	13 80
Collection Monday.....	15 50
Cash.....	\$171 15
Amount of vouchers....	136 20
Amount in vouchers and cash.....	\$307 30

T. J. EMMONS, Treasurer.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the citizens of Montgomery Hill for the kind and hospitable entertainment furnished during the session of this body.

Bro. B. J. Skinner was appointed to preach the introductory sermon.

After prayer by Bro. A. J. Lambert the Association adjourned to meet with the Bethany church on Tuesday before the third Sabbath in August, 1892.

W. T. NETTLES,
Clerk.

B. J. SKINNER,
Moderator.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF BETHLEHEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1891.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions		Foreign Mis'sns.		State Missions		Indigent Ministers	Ministerial Ed- ucation—How- ard College.		Minutes.	S. S. Expenses.	Woman's Society	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc.	Value of Build'g and Furniture.
	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.		Voucher.	Cash.						
Bellville.....	\$ 1 13	\$.....	\$ 1 13	\$.....	\$ 3 39	\$.....	\$.....	\$ 1 50	\$ 12 85	\$ 1 50	\$.....	\$.....	\$ 150 00	\$.....	\$ 800 00
Bethany.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 00	6 00	.....	5 00	15 00	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	1000 00
Claiborne.....	.....	5 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	100 00
Enon.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	2 75	.....	45 00	.....	40 00
Hamilton Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	.....	100 00	.....	600 00
Monroeville.....	4 50	.....	10 00	.....	4 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	10 00	11 75	150 00	95 00	1500 00
Montgomery Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	.....	.....	37 50	.....	500 00
Mt. Pleasant.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hopewell.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Philadelpia.....	7 50	2 00	4 00	.....	3 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 25	.....	.....	150 00	.....	1000 00
Pleasant Ridge.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill.....	.....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 50	.....	200 00
Perdue Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Point Pleasant.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salem.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Zion.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poplar Springs.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Judson.....	.....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	\$ 13 13	\$ 14 25	\$ 15 13	\$ 16 00	\$ 18 39	\$ 34 40	\$ 2 00	\$ 92 55	\$ 49 10	\$ 26 10	\$ 20 25	\$ 11 75	\$ 640 00	\$ 95 00	\$5940 00

Respectfully submitted,

L. A. HIXON, Chairman.

STATISTICS OF BETHLEHEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1891.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	No. Ordained Ministers.	No. Licensed Ministers.	Membership last Reported.	Increase by				Decrease by				Present Membership.	S. S. Teachers.	S. S. Pupils.	Preaching Sabbaths.
								Baptism.	Letter.	Experience.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Discharge.	Death.				
Bellville	Conceh.	B. J. Skinner	J. Stranghn	Bellville	1	1	76	...	2	...	...	9	...	1	...	68	...	...	4
Bethany	Monroe.	B. J. Skinner	J. P. Watkins	Burnt Corn	1	1	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	4
Claiborne	Monroe.	A. J. Lambert	B. F. Carter	Hollinger	1	1	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	...	...	4
Enon	Monroe.	W. A. Locke	L. B. Carter	Glaiborne .....	...	...	25	6	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	27	3	36	1
Hamilton Hill	Monroe.	A. P. Majors	L. Hixon	Monroeville .....	...	...	18	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	6	41	2
Monroeville	Monroe.	B. J. Skinner	Jno. DeLoach	Mt. Pleasant .....	...	...	72	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	2	14	3
Mt. Pleasant	Monroe.	J. S. Lambert	G. W. Falk .....	...	1	1	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	1
New Hopewell	Escambia.	S. L. Lowery	C. G. Hammonds	Kennypville .....	...	...	33	13	8	...	...	7	...	...	...	107	4	30	3
Philadelphia	Monroe.	B. I. Skinner	J. D. Nettles	Monroeville .....	...	...	106	8	1	...	...	4	3	...	...	62	4	30	4
Pleasant Ridge	Monroe.	W. A. Locke	I. L. Smith	Perdue Hill .....	...	...	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	6	40	2
Perdue Hill	Monroe.	A. J. Lambert	L. M. Lambert	Perdue Hill .....	...	...	29	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	...	...
Pleasant Hill	Monroe.	W. A. Locke	J. H. Moore	Brewton .....	...	...	59	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	...	...	...
Point Pleasant	Escambia.	S. L. Lowery	Jas. Smith	Perdue Hill	1	1	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	4	40	2
Salem	Monroe.	W. A. Locke	G. W. Thompson .....	...	...	...	105	18	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	78	...	...	...
*Ramoth	Monroe.	...	...	...	...	...	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...
*Repton	Monroe.	W. A. Locke	M. C. Cumble	Nero .....	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	2	15	...
*Poplar Spring	Monroe.	S. L. Lowery .....	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	...	...	...
*Oak Grove	Monroe.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Mal's Hill	Monroe.	A. J. Lambert	C. C. McWilliams	Axle .....	...	...	122	9	3	1	2	5	...	...	...	129	5	40	1
Zion	Baldwin.	A. J. Lambert	L. F. Warren	Tensaw .....	...	...	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51	6	30	4
Montgomery Hill .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madison	Escambia.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...
Total .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1183	42	316	...

*Not represented.

†Received at this session.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.—J. A. Wiggins, Claiborne; J. W. Leslie, Monroeville; W. T. Nettles, Kempville; J. Richardson, Monroeville; J. D. Roberts, Perdue Hill; J. H. Brown, Perdue Hill; M. C. Cumble, Nero; J. C. Falkenbury, Axle; T. P. Atkinson, Tensaw.



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